

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A log file protection system for protecting log files in which computer system operations have been recorded, comprising:

log file creation means which create a plurality of identical log files which record the operations of said computer system;

alteration detection means which periodically monitor said plurality of identical log files for alteration or deletion; and

restoration means which restore ~~[[the]]~~ an altered or deleted log file by replacing the altered or deleted log file with an unaltered log file from the plurality of identical log files, from another log file, when ~~[[an]]~~ the altered or deleted log file is detected by said alteration detection means.

2. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 1, wherein said log file ~~creations~~ creation means create said plurality of ~~backup~~ identical log files in parallel, using identical information.

3. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 1, further comprising hiding means which hide all but one of the plurality of identical log files.

4. (Original) The log file protection system of Claim 3, wherein said hiding means periodically re-hide said hidden log files in different locations.

5. (Previously presented) The log file protection system of Claim 3, wherein said hiding means re-hide said hidden log files in different locations, when alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

6. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 5, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 1, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

9. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 2, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

10. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of ~~either~~ Claim 2, further comprising hiding means which hide all but one of the plurality of identical log files.

11. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 10, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

12. (Previously presented) The log file protection system of Claim 10, wherein said hiding means re-hide said hidden log files in different locations, when alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

13. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 12, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

14. (Previously presented) The log file protection system of Claim 10, wherein said hiding means periodically re-hide said hidden log files in different locations.

15. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 14, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

16. (Previously presented) The log file protection system of Claim 14, wherein said hiding means re-hide said hidden log files in different locations, when alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

17. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 16, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

18. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 3, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

19. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 4, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

20. (Previously presented) The log file protection system of Claim 4, wherein said hiding means re-hide said hidden log files in different locations, when alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

21. (Currently amended) The log file protection system of Claim 20, further comprising means which perform additional processing, when ~~an altered or deleted log file~~ alteration or deletion is detected by said alteration detection means.

22. (Canceled)

23. (New) The log file protection system of Claim 1, wherein said alteration detection means monitor said log files by using fingerprint data generated based on the entire content of the log file.

24. (New) The log file protection system of Claim 1, wherein said restoration means restore the altered or deleted log file automatically.

25. (New) Recording media which stores a program capable of implementing the log file protection system according to any of Claims 1-6, 8-21 or 23-24 on a computer system.

26. (New) A log file protection method for protecting log files in which computer system operations have been recorded, comprising:

- (a) creating a plurality of identical log files which record the operations of said computer system;
- (b) periodically monitoring said plurality of identical log files for alteration or deletion; and
- (c) restoring the altered or deleted log file by replacing the altered or deleted log file with an unaltered log file from the plurality of identical log files when the altered or deleted log file is detected in said periodic monitoring step.